

AMENDMENTS TO THE DRAWINGS

The Examiner required correction of the misspelling in Fig. 2B. The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Fig. 2B. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Fig. 2B. In Fig. 2B, the spelling of "length" has been corrected.

Attachment: Replacement Sheet

REMARKS

As stated in the January 29, 2007 Office Action ("the Office Action"), the Examiner requested that Applicant elect a claim set for further examination. The Office Action provided the following, potential claim sets for election:

- I. Group I (Claims 1, 83, 128, 153, and all of their dependent claims);
- II. Group II (Claims 21, 103, 173, and all of their dependent claims);
- III. Group III (Claims 41, 123, 193, 208, and all of their dependent claims);
- IV. Group IV (Claims 62, 71, and all of their dependent claims); or
- V. Group V (Claims 144, 214, and all of their dependent claims).

As explained in the Office Action, the Examiner made a telephone call to Mr. Jack Todd, Attorney for Applicant, on December 13, 2006, to request an oral election to the restriction requirement. In response, Applicant elected Group I for examination purposes. Although such election was made with traverse, Applicant hereby cancels all of the pending claims from Groups II, III, IV, and V and reserves the right to file further continuations or divisional applications directed to one or more such claim sets in addition to any claims that depends therefrom.

Claims 1, 5, 6, 14, 16-20, 83, 87, 88, 96, 98-102, 128-130, 132-136, 153, 166, 168-172, 198-200, and 202-206 are pending in the application. Claims 1-6, 14, 83-88, 96, 98-102, 128-130, 132-137, 153-158, 166, 168-172, 198-200, and 202-206 have been rejected. Claims 7-13, 15, 89-95, 97, 131, 159-165, 167, 201, and 207 have been objected to but indicated as allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

In response to the Office Action, Applicant has agreed to take the claims that have been objected to but deemed allowable if rewritten in independent format and has agreed to cancel the remaining claims. Specifically, Applicant has rewritten objected-to claims

7, 13, 89, 95, 131, 159, 201 and 207 in independent form to include all of the limitations of such claims and the claims from which they originally depended. These newly rewritten independent claims should now be allowable since they were already deemed allowable in the prior Office Action. Applicant has also amended hereby the dependency of claims 2-3, 6, 12, 14, 16, 18-20, 84-86, 88, 93-94, 96, 98, 101-102, 129-130, 132-133, 135, 137, 155-158, 163-166, 168, 171-172, 199-200, 202-203, and 205.¹ Such claims now or still depend from the newly rewritten independent claims 7, 13, 89, 95, 131, 159, 201 and 207 and, likewise, should be in allowable condition since they merely depend from allowable independent claims. Although not objected to in the Office Action, claims 9, 91, 94, and 161 have been amended slightly to provide antecedent basis for the "acknowledgement field" element. Finally, Applicant hereby cancels claims 1, 5, 21-83, 87, 103-128, 138-154, 173-198, and 208-222.

Applicant submits that no new subject matter has been added by the amendments and that the amendments overcome Examiner's rejections and objections to the claims. Accordingly, this application is believed to be in condition for allowance, and such action is earnestly solicited.

CONCLUSION

The foregoing is submitted as a full and complete response to the Office Action mailed January 29, 2007 and is believed to place claims 2-5, 6-20, 84-86, 88-102, 129-137, 155-172, and 199-207 in condition for allowance. Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that this application be allowed and that a Notice of Allowance be issued. If the Examiner believes that there are any issues that can be resolved by a telephone conference, or that there are any informalities that can be corrected by an Examiner's amendment, please call the undersigned at 404-233-7000. The application as originally filed paid for 202 total claims and 16 independent claims. By amendment, the

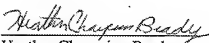
¹ Please note that some of the amended claims depend on subsequent claims. For example, claim 2, which originally depended from claim 1, has been amended to depend from claim 7, which had been rewritten in independent form and now includes the limitations of former claim 1.

Appl. No. 10/644,632
Reply to Office Action of January 29, 2007
Amendment dated April 27, 2007

application has a total of 72 claims and 8 independent claims. It is not believed that any other fees are due; however, please charge any fees that might be due to our Deposit Account No. 50-3537.

Respectfully submitted,
Morris, Manning & Martin, LLP
On behalf of Applicant

April 27, 2007


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Attachments